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7 APR 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Secretary of Defense,
6 April 1978

1. I gave the Secretary a debriefing on my trip.
2. The Secretary raised the question of charters. He had had breakfast with Senator Bayh this morning. I described the letter I was about to sign setting up the working group under Tony Lapham and outlining the principal issues. I said it would be my intent that this group would resolve all differences which could be resolved within the intelligence community and then send to the SCC only those issues which could not be resolved at the working level. I suggested that we would want to go to the SCC possibly on a title-by-title basis in order to be able to negotiate as much as possible with the Senate Select Committee prior to our appearing before it in testimony. I stressed that we wanted to avoid asking the Committee to change its position in public hearings. Secretary Brown and Secretary Duncan both agreed that I should send the letter and that we should proceed with these guidelines.

I also mentioned that I was anxious that we not let our working levels use the charter exercise to try to change the Administration position as enunciated in Executive Order 12036. Secretary Brown said there were some ambiguities in the Executive Order which, if the Senate attempted to clarify, would inevitably lead to some jockeying of this sort. Both he and Secretary Duncan, however, indicated that they agreed we should use the Executive Order as the base line of an Administration position and not deliberately attempt to change it.

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b. The Secretary was suggesting that the errors in the study were such that we ought to make an amendment to it. I expressed reservations as to whether you could do that with something that basically was as subjective as this, but suggested that DoD submit to us their specific recommended changes.

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6. I raised the issue of whether DIA should provide a list of foreign liaison to the HPSCI. He indicated they didn't have any equity in this but were willing to take the DCI's lead as to what the community policy should be. I therefore think we're going to have to get into the act in between the program managers and the HPSCI in negotiating with the HPSCI on this situation.


STANSFIELD TURNER
Director

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